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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board Members  
FROM: Lebel Hicks & Henry Jennings  
SUBJECT: Technical & Stakeholders Committees to Address Aerial Issues  
DATE: September 6, 2006

At the Board's July 21, 2006 meeting, you reviewed the prioritized list of discretionary tasks. Aerial application issues ranked as the first priority by a wide margin and you discussed how to best approach the issue. Consensus was reached and the staff was directed to work on developing two committees: a technical committee to review recent research on aerial drift management, and a stakeholders committee to develop recommendations for Board consideration.

The staff met to discuss the potential make-up of the committees. We view the technical committee as fairly small and consisting primarily of scientists familiar with pesticide application and one or two aerial applicators. The stakeholders committee will by definition need to be larger to adequately represent the affected parties, and care must be taken to balance the committee. Stakeholder committee members should be drawn from people who had testified during the public hearings together with representatives from potentially affected commodity groups, state agencies with interest in aerial drift issues, and researchers familiar with the issues. Additional participants were suggested during the process of contacting individuals originally identified.

Lebel Hicks has developed a list of possible participants for each committee, attached as Table 1 (Technical) and Table 2 (Stakeholders). During staff discussions, the following questions arose which require Board input:

- Are these committees intended to deal with issues related to aerial application of pesticides or pesticide drift in general? One concern is that if applicators stop aerial spraying and resort to airblast treatments, ground drift and exposure might present different issues.
- Are there additional persons or organizations that should be added to the pool of potential participants? Is the pool of candidates adequate?
- Will Board members chair the committees and/or participate? When should the committees start? Should the Board kick the process off with a public meeting?
- Should the technical committee be formed first and begin developing a "white paper" on the current state of the science to present to the stakeholder committee? Or should the two committees meet simultaneously? The latter may stretch staff and any committee member's resources considerably.

We look forward to your input at next Friday's meeting.